Before the

ORIGIN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20554

In re Application of

ROSAMOND RADIO, INC.

For Construction Permit for a New FM Station on Channel 228A at Rosamond, California

FCC File No BOF SIVE SANG

AUG 05 1991

'AUG - 2 1991

FM EXAMINERS RAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

To: Chief, Mass Media Bureau

OPPOSITION TO OBJECTION

Rosamond Radio, Inc. ("Rosamond Radio") hereby opposes the informal objection filed by Diane K. Hitt ("Hitt") to the above-captioned application. Hitt, an applicant for a new FM station to operate on Channel 228A, at Rosamond, California, objects to the acceptance for filing and continued processing of Rosamond Radio's mutually-exclusive application for a new FM station at Rosamond. 1 A brief explanation of Rosamond Radio's application is necessary in order to understand the nature of Hitt's objection.

1. Background.

In its application, Rosamond Radio employs the use of the Commission's contour protection procedures specified in § 73.215 of the Commission's Rules because Rosamond Radio's proposed antenna site is 100.68 kilometers from Station KRZE-FM, Ontario, California, and, as such, is short-spaced to KRZE by approximately 4

 $[\]underline{1}$ / The period for filing petitions to deny Rosamond Radio's application has passed. The 30-day period set by the Commission's Public Notice (Report NA-147), released May 13, 1991 ended on June 17, 1991. Hitt's Objection was not filed until July 11, 1991. It is therefore identified by Hitt as an "informal objection," filed pursuant to § 73.3587 of the Commission's Rules. Because the time limits contained in Section 1.45 of the Commission's Rules do not apply to oppositions to informal objections, see 47 C.F.R. § 73.3587, Rosamond Radio is likewise responding "informally," i.e., without regard to the normal filing deadlines.

kilometers. Rosamond Radio utilizes § 73.213 of the Rules to determine its distance separation requirements because § 73.213 applies to applicants, such as Rosamond Radio, proposing 3-kilowatt facilities on "grandfathered" channel allotments requested prior to October 2, 1989.

Hitt, on the other hand, argues that Rosamond Radio's use of § 73.213 is improper. According to Hitt, the distance separation requirements specified in § 73.207(b), rather than those specified in § 73.213, must be used when § 73.215 is employed. Under this theory, Rosamond Radio's proposed facility is short-spaced to KRZE by 14.31, rather than 4 kilometers, which is in excess of the 8-kilometer restriction imposed upon applicants utilizing § 73.215. However, Hitt has cited nothing in the Commission's Rules or in any FCC decision to support its argument. Indeed, both the literal language of the Rules and simple common sense dictate that Hitt's theory must be rejected.

2. Class A FM Applications Are Exempt From the 8 Kilometer Limit on Directional Facilities.

In its Second Report and Order in MM Docket No. 88-375, the Commission states without qualification (at ¶ 57) that it is "... exempting... [Class A] stations from the temporary 5 mile (8 kilometer) limit on short-spaced locations..." Significantly, the Commission did not state that it was removing the 8-kilometer limit only for existing Class A stations and leaving it in place for new Class A stations. Moreover, in affirming the applicability of the Class A exemption in its Memorandum

^{2/} The Notice of Proposed Rule Making that led to the allotment of the Rosamond channel was adopted on July 18, 1989, and released on August 9, 1989. See 4 FCC Rcd. 6188 (1989). Thus, the petition for rule making was obviously filed well before the October 2, 1989, change in the spacing rules.

^{3/ 4} FCC Rcd. 6375 (1989).

Opinion and Order, FCC 91-128, released May 30, 1991, at ¶ 22, the Commission, again, made no distinction between new and existing stations.

Under this "Class A" exemption to the 8-kilometer spacing restriction, no spacing requirements are applicable to Rosamond Radio's proposed directional facility. Although Hitt argues that the Class A exemption applies only to existing Class A stations seeking to improve their facilities and not to applicants, such as Rosamond Radio, for new stations, there is nothing in the Rules or in any published Commission decision that supports Hitt's assertion.

In this connection it is important to keep in mind that the 8-kilometer restriction has no interference implications. It was not imposed because the FCC had any doubts about the adequacy of the § 73.215 contour protection provisions. Rather, it was adopted purely as a temporary administrative tool to restrict the number of § 73.215 applicants its staff would have to process. Id. Therefore, no rational basis for disparate treatment of new as opposed to existing Class A stations is apparent. Accordingly, Rosamond Radio's proposed station can be short-spaced to the Ontario station by any distance whatsoever, whether it be 4 or 14 kilometers, as long as the appropriate § 73.215 contour protection requirements are met.

3. Rosamond Radio's Proposal Complies With the 8 Kilometer Limit In Any Event.

Even if the Commission determines that the 8-kilometer limit does apply in this case, it is clear from the wording of the FCC's Rules that Rosamond Radio meets the appropriate spacing requirements with respect to KRZE. Hitt argues--again without any authority--that § 73.215 mandates the use of the distance separations specified in § 73.207(b) and that no other separation standards may be used. However, although § 73.215 does refer to § 73.207, that cross-reference is not limited to the spacing requirements in subsection (b) of § 73.207. To the contrary, § 73.215 references all of

§ 73.207-- subsections (a) through (c)--and subsection (a) of § 73.207 in turn refers to the spacing requirements of § 73.213. Specifically, § 73.207 states at subsection (a) that the distance separation requirements of § 73.207(b) and (c) are applicable "[e]xcept for assignments made pursuant to § 73.213." The Rosamond Radio application involves just such a "§ 73.213 assignment."

Section 73.213(c) states that the distances listed in 73.213 apply to "new stations," such as that proposed by Rosamond Radio, "on channel allotments made by order granting petitions to amend the Table of FM Allotments . . . filed prior to October 2, 1989." Moreover, the Commission's Report and Order allocating the new channel to Rosamond expressly permits the use of the distance separation standards of 373.213. Therefore, contrary to Hitt's assertion, Rosamond Radio has specific authority, both in 373.215 of the Commission's Rules and in the Report and Order allocating the Rosamond channel, to use the separation requirements specified in 373.213 rather than the separation requirements contained in 373.207(b).

Further, simple logic dictates that § 73.213 must be applied here. Rosamond Radio is proposing a 3-kilowatt station. Section 73.213 defines the distance separation for 3-kilowatt stations. It would not make sense to apply the stricter 6-kilowatt

^{4/} See Report and Order in MM Docket No. 89-344, 5 FCC Rcd. 7408 (1990).

^{5/} In the Report and Order, the Commission states that, since the Rosamond channel was being allotted pursuant to a petition filed prior to October 2, 1989, applicants for the allotment "may avail themselves of the provisions of § 73.213(a)(1) of the Commission's Rules." See 5 FCC Rcd. 7408 n. 4.

^{6/} It should be further noted that the Commission approved a similar application (File No. BMPH-900424ID) filed by Station KWRP(FM), San Jacinto, California. As set forth in the attached Technical Statement prepared by Milan Leggett, Rosamond Radio's consulting engineer, KWRP operates on Channel 241A, which is grandfathered with a maximum power of 3.0 kilowatts. The Commission approved KWRP's application which proposed a directional facility pursuant to § 73.215 of the Commission's Rules and utilized the distance separation requirements specified in § 73.213 of the Rules to determine its appropriate separation from Station KSIQ in Brawley, California.

standards of § 73.207 to a 3-kilowatt station, particularly where, as in this case, there is no potential for interference because a directional antenna is being employed.

Consequently, the clear language of the Commission's Rules, as well as the obvious purpose of those Rules, demonstrates that the distance separation requirements specified in § 73.213, rather than § 73.207(b), apply here. Utilizing the § 73.213 standards, Rosamond Radio's proposed facility is short spaced to KRZE by only 4 kilometers, which falls well within the 8-kilometer limit. Therefore, even if the temporary 8-kilometer restriction on the use of § 73.215 is applicable to Rosamond Radio's proposed Class A facility, that standard is satisfied, and Rosamond Radio's directional antenna proposal is acceptable for filing.

WHEREFORE, for the reasons set forth herein, Rosamond Radio, Inc. submits that the assertions set forth in the Objection filed by Diane K. Hitt are without merit and that the Objection should be denied.

Respectfully submitted,

Arent Fox Kintner Plotkin & Kahn 1050 Connecticut Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20036-5339 (202) 857-6000

Sus- A. Marken

Counsel for Rosamond Radio, Inc.

TECHNICAL STATEMENT

This Technical Statement has been prepared for ROSAMOND RADIO, INC., ("Rosamond Radio"), applicant for a new FM broadcast station to operate on Channel 228A, grandfathered, in Rosamond, California, FCC File No. BPH-910225MG, and is in response to an Objection filed by a competing applicant for the same facility, DIANE K. HITT, ("Hitt"), FCC File No. BPH-910225MI. Hitt alleges that the Rosamond Radio application proposes a short-spacing that is in excess of that allowed under under §73.215 of the Commission's Rules to Radio Station KRZE-FM, Channel 228A, grandfathered, Ontario, California.

Recently, the Commission has made several changes in the Rules that bear on this situation. First, MM Docket 87-121 permits FM station assignments to be short-spaced provided service contours of the affected stations are protected from interference. Such protection may be achieved by the use of directional antennas, power reduction, or terrain anomalies. A temporary restriction, limiting short-spacing to eight kilometers or less, is in effect at this time.

Another recent change in the Rules occurred in MM Docket 88-375 which increased the maximum transmitting power of Class A stations from 3.0 to 6.0 kilowatts provided new increased distance separation requirements to other affected stations or allotments are in compliance. Existing stations

TECHNICAL STATEMENT continued

or allotments that were authorized as a result of a petition for rule making filed prior to October 2, 1989 and that do not or cannot comply with the new minimum distance separations are considered "grandfathered" under the previous minimum distance separation requirements and the previous maximum power of 3.0 kilowatts. Channel 228A, Rosamond, is a grandfathered allotment. KRZE-FM, licensed on Channel 228A, is a grandfathered station.

The Rosamond Radio application falls under the category of a grandfathered Class A station application because the allotment is the result of a petition for rule making filed prior to October 2, 1989. As such, the vacant channel coordinates assigned by the Commission, 34° 56' 56" north latitude and 118° 14' 07" west longitude do not comply with the new minimum distance separation requirements to KRZE-FM for a 6.0 kilowatt station but do comply with the requirements for a 3.0 kilowatts station using previous distance separations.

The Rosamond Radio application was filed under §73.213(c)(1) of the Commission's Rules and is in compliance with the minimum distance separation requirements of §73.213(c)(1) except for KRZE-FM, Channel 228A, grandfathered under previous rules, in Ontario, California. The proposal of Radio Rosamond is short-spaced to KRZE-FM by 4.32 kilometers based on the applicable separation table of §73.213(c)(1). Because it is not

TECHNICAL STATEMENT continued

possible to serve Rosamond without terrain obstructions over parts of the community from a fully-spaced (105 kilometers) site without the use of a tall and prohibitively expensive tower for an antenna support, Rosamond Radio took advantage of the new contour protection rules of Docket 87-121 and proposed a directional antenna to protect the service contour of KRZE-FM. Likewise, the proposed service contour of Rosamond Radio does not receive interference from KRZE-FM.

Contrary to Hitt's contention in paragraph 2 of the Objection, the Rosamond radio application was filed using the provisions of §73.213(c)(1). It was stated as such both in the original application and in ENGINEERING AMENDMENT A filed in May 1991. Hitt also states in the same paragraph that the minimum distance separation table of §73.207(b) must be used if contour protection using a short-spaced site is proposed. Hitt quotes a reference in §73.215 to the separation table of §73.207 but totally ignores §73.207(a) which categorically exempts applicants for assignments pursuant to §§73.213 or 73.215 from compliance with the table. A portion of §73.207(a) is quoted here:

[&]quot;(a) Except for assignments made pursuant to $\S\S$ 73.213 or 73.215, FM allotments and assignments must be separated from other allotments and assignments on the same channel (co-channel) and on near-by adjacent channels by not less than the minimum distances specified in paragraphs (b) and (c) of this section. The commission will not accept petitions to amend the Table of Allotments, applications

TECHNICAL STATEMENT continued

for new stations, or applications to change the channel or location of existing assignments unless transmitter sites meet the minimum distance separation requirements of this section or such applications conform to the requirements of §§73.213 or 73.215...." (Emphasis added)

Hitt's contention that the separation requirements of 73.207(b) must be used in determining the distance of shortspacing is incorrect for other reasons. First, the vacant channel coordinates assigned by the Commission were such that the distance from the KRZE-FM transmitter site to the reference coordinates was 105 kilometers. This is the proper distance for grandfathered, 3.0 kilowatt, co-channel Class A FM stations. All other required minimum distance separations were in accordance with the new Class A 6.0 kilowatt spacings but these spacings are of no consequence. The determining factor is the spacing to the closest station or allotment which, in this case, is KRZE-FM. Had the reference coordinates been such that the Channel 228A Rosamond allotment was for a 6.0 kilowatt class A station, then the short-spacing would have been determined from the Class A 6.0 kilovatt minimum distance separation requirements. As the channel was allocated however, it could be nothing more than a 3.0 kilowatt station because it is within the Mexican border area and was notified to Mexico as a Class A station and was accepted by Mexico as a Class A station. An FM station operating with more than 3.0 kilowatts in the Mexican border area is considered by Mexico as at least a Class B station and must be accepted by Mexico as such.

TECHNICAL STATEMENT continued

Finally, there is absolute proof that the Rosamond Radio application was filed in accordance with §§73.213 and 73.215. Radio Station KWRP, San Jacinto, California, FCC File No. BMPK-900424ID operates on Channel 241A, grandfathered with a maximum power of 3.0 kilowatts or the equivalent. Also, on Channel 241 is KSIQ, Brawley, California, operating as a Class B station. The required distance separation between these two facilities is 163 kilometers. In April 1990, KWRP (CP) filed an application stating on the first page that it was filed pursuant to §73.215 and §73.213. The application proposed a site that was located 161.1 kilometers from the transmitter location of KSIQ. This represents a short-spacing of 1.89 kilometers based on the separation table of §73.213(c)(1). To prevent overlap between the two stations, KWRP reduced power from the maximum .085 kilowatts to .060 kilowatts. application was granted and KWRP is now operating. separation requirements of §73.207(b) for these two stations, according to Hitt's contention would have been 178 kilometers. This would have represented a short-spacing of 17 kilometers, again according to Hitt's reasoning. Section 73.207(b) was not considered in any manner in the KWRP/KSIQ situation.

		*** P 10 ***		
S CA San Jacinto Owner: N 33 48 13 W 116 59 39 Non-DA Int. Status: USED	Federal cial Secondary Sou Window Close: Near Mex border	Communications Commissince See Warning and 870415 Horiz: Vert:	Country, State, City, Channel on Mass Media Bureau Disclaimer in Section 0.434 of FUSED 241A 96.1 MHz ERP(kW) Max(kW) HAAT(m) RCAMSL(Okt 84-231 m) Window Open: 870303 No Beam Tilt Max HAAT: m
Rules Comment: N 18 ~ S CA San Jacinto Owner: H.S.C. Radio, 1 N 33 49 47 W 116 57 1 Non-DA Int. Status: OPER	Inc.	KWRP Horiz: Vert: 73.215 applies	ERP(kW) Max(kW) HAAT(m) RCAMSL(_060	No Beam Tilt Max HAAT: 694 m :12:45
S CA San Joaquin Owner: N 36 36 24 W 120 11 Oc Non-DA Int. Status: Rules Comment: EFFECT]	Not near border	Vert:	USED 288A 105.5 MHz ERP(kW) Max(kW) HAAT(m) RCAMSL(Last Updated on 890306 at 15	No Beam Tilt Max HAAT:
CA San Joaquin Owner: Susan Lundborg N 36 40 51 W 120 09 53 Non-DA	3	NEW Horiz: Vert:	ERP(kW) Max(kW) HAAT(m) RCAMSL(d 3.00 157 3.00 100 157	No Beam Tilt Max HAAT: 107 m
Int. Status: CA San Jose Owner: San Jose Unifie N 37 12 59 W 121 50 39 Non-DA	ed School District	KLEL Horiz: Vert:	Last Updated on 901128 at 20: LIC 207A 89.3 MHz BLED8: ERP(kW) Max(kW) HAAT(m) RCAMSL(m: .100 -165 104 .100 -165 104	30613DD m) No Beam Tilt
Int. Status: CA San Jose Owner: San Jose State N 37 12 33 W 121 46 30 Non-DA	University	73.215 does not apply KSJS Horiz: Vert:	Last Updated on 881101 at 15: CP 214A 90.7 MHz BPED8: ERP(kW) Max(kW) HAAT(m) RCAMSL8: 250 120 381	71110NR n) No Beam Tilt
Int. Status: CA San Jose Owner: San Jose State N 37 20 09 W 121 53 04 Non-DA	University	73.215 does not apply KSJS Horiz: Vert:	Last Updated on 901128 at 20 LIC 214A 90.7 MHz BLED15 ERP(kW) Max(kW) HAAT(m) RCAMSL(n 1.00 ~50 67 1.00 ~50 67	:35:00 512 n) No Beam Tilt
	Not near border		Last Updated on 891102 at 17:	

15-MAY-91 *** Noti: US CA Santa Mar Owner: T: N 34 50 0' Non-DA Int. State Gen. Comm US CA Santa Mar Owner: N 34 54 3 Non-DA Int. State Gen. Comr US CA Santa Mar Owner: Gr N 34 54 3 Non-DA Int. State Gen. Come US CA Santa Mar Owner: 6: N 34 54 3: Non-DA Int. Stat US CA Santa Mar Owner: N 34 50 0 Non-DA Int. State Gen. Com US CA Santa Mar Owner: P N 34 50 0 Non-DA Int. State US CA Santa Mar Owner: W N 34 50 (DA M Int. Stat Gen. Com

or T: O'

ŧŧι

)mr

3

ati omr or Gr 37

ati omi ar G: 3.

ac 0

atı

ar e 0

at ar V (1 M ·

On t i

```
*ity, Channel Page 240
**irrau tion 0.434 of FCC Rules *** Notice ***
1.1 Mar BLH85052HC
**AAT(m) RCAMSL(m)
173 549 No Beam Tilt
173 549 Ham HAAT: 378 m
175 7 Mile Phe Beam Tilt
175 177 Ham HAAT: m
175 177 Ho Beam Tilt
175 177 Ham HAAT: 77 m
175 177 Ham HAAT: 77 m
175 177 Ham HAAT: 77 m
175 177 Ham HAAT: 177 m
175 17
```

4AY-91	FM Enginee	ing Data Base Sor	ted by Country	State, City,	Channel .	Pag	e 255
	7 000	ral Communications Co - Source - m - See - Marolo	maission M	155 Media Bureau			
A Brauley		K510	· UC	2418 76,1 PM	2 BLH81092	TAL DET 80-394	
Owner: \$1 96 H 33 00 30 W	Inc.		ERP(kW)	Max(FM) HAAT(m		W	
Non-bA			oriz: 50. Vert: 50.	56 56	23	No Beam Tilt Max HART: 81 m	
int. Status: 0	PER Near Mex bord		apply Last	Updated on 850 2818 100,1 Fe	509 at 00:00:	00	
A Bridgeport Owner: Listen	ers' Network-Bishop, 1	KEDIAY	(IC FRP(bu)	ZOID 100,1 PM Max(kW) HAAT(#	2 BL115411U 3 BCAMSL(m)	71A	
N 38 05 28 W	119 08 55	14	oriz:			No Beam Tilt	
Mon-BA Int. Status:	Not near bord		Vert:	Updated on 84:	211 00-00-	Max HAAT; m	
Gen. Comment:	TRANSLATOR FOR KICO.	BISHOP, CA.		. updated un o	211 81 00.00.	••	
CA Bridgeport, Le		K209AH		2090 89.7 MH		310	
N 38 05 51 W	n In≤prirational Broad 119 10 17		oriz: .009	Max(W) HAAT(m	2558	No Beam Tilt	
DA Make:	Model:	Rotate:				Max HAAT: 556 m	
Int. Status: Gen. Comment:	Not near bord Translator for KNIB,	tr /3,410 does not Carson, MV	apply Last	Updated on 900	616 at 14:43:	46	
[A Buellton , etc		KTYD-1			BLFT890051	1TA	
N 34 35 35 W	no Broadcasting Corpor	etion u	ERP(kW) oriz: 0.60	Max(kW) HAAT(m	RCAMSL(m) 354	No Seam Tilt	
DA Make:	Model:	Rotate:	Vert:		<i>-</i>	Mas HAAT: 222 m	
int. Status:	Not near bord	er 73.215 does not	apply Last	Updated on 910	423 at 14:57:	53	
A Buellton, etc. Owner: Canali	o Broadcasting Corpor	KZ85EB	(P FRP(by)	2856 104,9 PM; Nex(kW) HAT(m)	r BPFT87072 #C#MSL(#)	81A	
N 34 35 36 W	120 11 19 Cut	off: 871025 H	oriz: .0/26		354	No Beam Tilt	
DA Make: Int, Status;	Model: Not near bord	Rotate: r 73.215 does not	Vert:	Updated on 880	711 00.00.	Max HAAT: 228 m	
Gen. Comment:	TRANSLATOR FOR KTYD,	SANTA BARBARA, CA.		. •		••	
, A BURNS FACE		Kapk		2116 90.1 191			
N 33 51 35 W	Park School District	н	oriz: .019	Max(kW) HAAT(m)	KCMMSL(M)	No Beam Tilt	
Non-bA			Vert: .019			m STAAK REM	
Int. Status: 0 A Burbank	PER Mear Mex bord	r 73.215 does not K224AE	apply Last	Updated on 760. 2240 92,7 mm	PARTICION DE PROPERTO	UU ATR	
Owner: Michael			ERP(kW)	Max(kW) HAAT(m	KCAMSL(m)		
N 34 12 54 W DA Make:			oriz: .006 Vert:		930	No Beam Tilt Max HAAT: 767 m	
Int. Status: S	OPER Near Mex bord		apply Last	Updated on 871	209 at 00:00:		
Gen. Comment:	CP CANCELLED 870413						
MOLICE	Unofficial Secondary	sonice see Marusu	g and Disclaim	er in section n	.434 OT FEE R	ules *** Notice ***	•

8 01 . US A-C 001 . US A-C 002 D U3..US A

E 03..US A

F 03..US A

G 03..US A

J 03..US A

J 03..US A

J 03..US A

O3..US A

O3..US A 0 03. US A 03. US A
0 04. US A
1 05. US A

PESTAPT VI

RADIO ROSAMOND, INC.

TECHNICAL STATEMENT continued

MILAN LEGGETT states under penalty of perjury that the information contained in the attached Technical Statement is true and correct to the best of his knowledge and belief.

Milan Leggett

July 31, 1991

Date

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Carol A. Moore, do hereby certify that I have caused a copy of the foregoing "Opposition to Objection" to be sent by first class United States mail, postage prepaid, this 2nd day of August, 1991, to the following:

Ms. Leslie Evans 879 19th Lakeport, California 95453

John F. Garziglia, Esquire Pepper & Corazzini 1776 K Street, N.W., Suite 200 Washington, D.C. 20006 Counsel for Dian K. Hitt

Arthur V. Belendiuk, Esquire Smithwick & Belendiuk, P.C. 2033 M Street, N.W., Room 207 Washington, D.C. 20036 Counsel for Desert Rose Broadcasting

Carol A Moore